for unorganized sector workers including women workers. The list of occupations, *inter-alia*, includes forestry operations.The benefits under the scheme are old age pension, personal accidental insurance and medical insurance cover. The National Commission for Women organized a public hearing on the impact of globalization on women bamboo workers on 26.09.2003 at Malayattor, Kerala. The recommendations include (i) ensure regular employment through supply of quality bamboos at subsidized prices, (ii) to provide pension and medical aid to the workers, (iii) enhance the concept of multi-skilling, (iv) use of bamboo products in the Departments like railways, shipping, defence and road-transport, (v) establish global linkages for better marketing avenues, (vi) investment in the research and development wing to improve the quality of products, etc. The Commission has sent these recommendations to the concerned State Government and various Ministries/Departments.

**Plight of Mine Child Workers in Rajasthan**

†980. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a report issued by NGOs-named 'Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti' and 'Headcon' the plight of the children working in various mines in Rajasthan has been highlighted;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the number of children under fourteen years of age working in these mines alongwith their working hours and the wages being paid to them; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to improve their condition?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) The Government is not aware of any such report from the named NGOs.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Mines Act, 1952 does not permit employment of children below fourteen years of age in mines. Therefore, there is no question of fixing their working hours and wages.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.